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Featuring:

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Corn, soybeans chart record-breaking seasons

“Crop conditions looked relatively good all season, and looks can sometimes be deceiving, but in this case it wasn’t,” said David Knopf, director of the NASS Eastern Mountain Regional Office in Kentucky. “Yields for corn, soybeans and tobacco strongly rebounded from last year when weather conditions limited yield.”

Corn yield set a new record high of 178 bushels per acre. That’s six bushels more than the previous record in 2015,” Knopf said. “Production was down from last year, based on fewer harvested acres, but ranks as the fifth largest corn crop grown in the state.” **Corn** production in **Kentucky** is estimated at 217 million bushels, down one percent from the November forecast and down two percent from the previous crop. Yield was estimated at 178 bushels per acre, up one bushel from the November forecast and up 19 bushels from the 2016 level. Acres for harvest as grain were estimated at 1.22 million acres, down 180,000 acres from 2016. The **U.S.** corn production is estimated at 14.6 billion bushels, up slightly from the November forecast and down four percent from the revised 2016 estimate. The average yield in the United States is estimated at 176.6 bushels per acre. This is up 1.2 bushels from the November forecast and two bushels above the revised 2016 average yield. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 82.7 million acres, down one percent from the November forecast and down five percent from the revised 2016 acreage.

“The soybean crop is the largest on record in Kentucky, outpacing the previous record by 16 percent,” Knopf said. “Soybean productivity has reached a new level given that four of the five highest yields have occurred in the last five years. The 2017 yield surpassed the previous record of 50 bushels per acre, achieved in both 2013 and 2016.” **Soybean** production for **Kentucky** is estimated at 103 million bushels, up two percent from the November forecast and up 16 percent from 2016. Yield was estimated at 53 bushels per acre, up one bushels from last month and up three bushels from a year ago. Acreage for harvest as beans was estimated at 1.94 million acres, up 160,000 acres from the previous year. **U.S.** soybean production is forecast at 4.39 billion bushels, down one percent from the November forecast and up two percent from last year. The average yield per acre is estimated at 49.1 bushels, down 0.4 bushels from last month and down 2.9 bushels from last year. Area harvested is up eight percent from 2016 at 89.5 million acres.

“Tobacco yields returned to average levels following last year’s growing season, which was adversely affected by weather and disease,” Knopf said. “Production was higher for all three tobacco types.” **Kentucky burley tobacco** production is estimated at 129 million pounds, down two percent from the October forecast and up 21 percent from 2016. Yield was estimated at 2,050 pounds per acre, down 50 pounds from October forecast and up 300 pounds from the 2016 crop. Harvested acreage was estimated at 63,000 acres, up 2,000 acres from last year's crop. For the **burley producing states** production is estimated at 161 million pounds, up 15 percent from last year. Burley growers harvested 81,500 acres, up two percent from 2016. Yields were estimated at 1,977 pounds per acre, up 230 pounds from last year. Production of **Kentucky dark fire-cured** tobacco is estimated at 38 million pounds, up 74 percent from the previous year. **Dark air-cured** tobacco production is estimated at 16.2 million pounds, up 111 percent from last year.

Alfalfa hay production by **Kentucky** farmers is estimated at 525,000 tons, down three percent the 2016 level. **Other hay** production is estimated at 4.80 million tons, down five percent from last year.

ANNUAL CROP PRODUCTION SUMMARY 2016-2017
KENTUCKY AND UNITED STATES

Crops	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield Per Acre		Production		
	2016 ¹	2017	2016 ¹	2017	2016 ¹	2017	2016 ¹	2017	17 % of 16
	KENTUCKY								
	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(bushels)	(bushels)	(000 bu)	(000 bu)	%
Corn ²	1,500	1,320	1,400	1,220	159.0	178.0	222,600	217,160	98
Soybeans ²	1,790	1,950	1,780	1,940	50.0	53.0	89,000	102,820	116
Wheat, Winter ²³	510	480	400	310	80.0	77.0	32,000	23,870	75
	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(tons)	(tons)	(000 tons)	(000 tons)	%
Hay:	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
All	--	--	2,250	2,150	2.48	2.48	5,580	5,325	95
Alfalfa	--	--	150	150	3.60	3.50	540	525	97
Other, All	--	--	2,100	2,000	2.40	2.40	5,040	4,800	95
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(000 pounds)	(000 pounds)	%
Tobacco:	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
All	--	--	75,300	80,500	1,810	2,277	136,280	183,300	135
Burley	--	--	61,000	63,000	1,750	2,050	106,750	129,150	121
Dark-Fire Cured	--	--	9,500	11,500	2,300	3,300	21,850	37,950	174
Dark-Air Cured	--	--	4,800	6,000	1,600	2,700	7,680	16,200	211
	UNITED STATES								
	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(bushels)	(bushels)	(000 bu)	(000 bu)	%
Corn ²	94,004	90,167	86,748	82,703	174.6	176.6	15,148,038	14,604,067	96
Soybeans ²	83,433	90,142	82,696	89,522	52.0	49.1	4,296,086	4,391,553	102
Wheat, Winter ²³	36,152	32,696	30,237	25,291	55.3	50.2	1,672,582	1,269,437	76
	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(000 ac)	(tons)	(tons)	(000 tons)	(000 tons)	%
Hay:	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
All	--	--	53,481	53,784	2.52	2.44	134,995	131,455	97
Alfalfa	--	--	16,885	16,563	3.45	3.32	58,263	55,068	95
Other, All	--	--	36,596	37,221	2.10	2.05	76,732	76,387	100
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(pounds)	(pounds)	(000 pounds)	(000 pounds)	%
Tobacco:	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
All	--	--	319,660	321,470	1,967	2,209	628,720	710,161	113
Burley	--	--	80,000	81,500	1,747	1,977	139,750	161,140	115
Dark-Fire Cured	--	--	16,760	19,270	2,358	3,089	39,520	59,531	151
Dark-Air Cured	--	--	6,000	7,600	1,670	2,658	10,020	20,200	202

Commodities with estimates not available are (denoted by "--"). ¹ Revisions possible. ² Area harvested represents grain. ³ Includes area planted in preceding fall.

Winter Wheat Seeded Acreage
Selected States & U.S., 2017 - 2018

State	Acreage Seeded ¹		
	2017 Crop	2018 Crop	18 % of 17
	(1,000 Acres)	(1,000 Acres)	Percent
Illinois	500	530	106
Indiana	290	330	114
Kansas	7,600	7,800	103
Kentucky	480	460	96
Missouri	640	690	108
Ohio	460	530	115
Oklahoma	4,500	4,100	91
Tennessee	370	360	97
Texas	4,700	5,000	106
United States	32,696	32,608	100

¹ Total acreage seeded for all purposes.

Off-Farm Storage Capacity
December 1, 2016 & 2017

State	Number of Off-Farm Facilities		Rated Off-Farm Storage Capacity	
	12-1-16	12-1-17	12-1-16	12-1-17
	(000 bu.)	(000 bu.)	(000 bu.)	(000 bu.)
Illinois	840	840	1,500,000	1,500,000
Indiana	320	314	520,000	540,000
Kentucky	155	155	80,000	84,000
Missouri	330	335	265,000	275,000
Ohio	358	358	435,000	455,000
Tennessee	146	143	70,000	75,000
United States	8,540	8,527	11,074,805	11,240,405

Off-farm capacity data includes all elevators, warehouses, terminals, merchant mills, other storage and oilseed crushers which store whole grains, soybeans, canola, flaxseed, mustard seed, safflower, sunflower, and rapeseed.

Kentucky and United States Stocks of Grain, December 1, 2017 with Comparisons

Crop & Position	Kentucky			United States		
	Dec 2016	Sep 2017 ¹	Dec 2017	Dec 2016	Sep 2017 ¹	Dec 2017
	<i>(000 Bushels)</i>	<i>(000 Bushels)</i>	<i>(000 Bushels)</i>	<i>(000 Bushels)</i>	<i>(000 Bushels)</i>	<i>(000 Bushels)</i>
Corn						
On-Farm	105,000	4,700	120,000	7,611,000	787,000	7,739,000
Off-Farm ²	27,438	6,267	29,524	4,772,471	1,506,303	4,777,406
Total	132,438	10,967	149,524	12,383,471	2,293,303	12,516,406
Sorghum						
On-Farm	(3)	(3)	(3)	43,000	4,280	33,800
Off-Farm ²	(D)	(D)	(D)	266,079	29,179	192,216
Total	(D)	(D)	(D)	309,079	33,459	226,016
Oats						
On-Farm	(3)	(3)	(3)	30,430	33,950	23,300
Off-Farm ²	(D)	32	40	45,058	38,039	43,504
Total	(D)	32	40	75,488	71,989	66,804
Barley						
On-Farm	(3)	(3)	(3)	99,100	90,400	74,340
Off-Farm ²	(D)	(D)	(D)	93,429	89,283	80,793
Total	(D)	(D)	(D)	192,529	179,683	155,133
All Wheat						
On-Farm	(D)	(D)	(D)	571,280	491,800	393,180
Off-Farm ²	14,774	17,411	13,214	1,508,080	1,774,275	1,480,364
Total	(D)	(D)	(D)	2,079,360	2,266,075	1,873,544
Soybeans						
On-Farm	(D)	(D)	(D)	1,335,000	87,900	1,485,000
Off-Farm ²	16,373	1,637	19,435	1,564,056	213,695	1,672,020
Total	(D)	(D)	(D)	2,899,056	301,595	3,157,020

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

¹ Data may have been revised. ² Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors. ³ On-Farm stocks estimates not made.

Crop Average Prices Received ¹

Commodity	Kentucky		U.S.	
	Nov 2016	Nov 2017	Nov 2016	Nov 2017
	\$	\$	\$	\$
All Corn (Bu) ²³	3.59	3.37	3.24	3.15
Soybeans (Bu) ²	9.79	9.49	9.47	9.22
Winter Wheat (Bu) ²	(4)	(4)	3.41	4.07
Hay, Alfalfa (Ton)	225.00	205.00	130.00	148.00
Hay, Other (Ton)	110.00	105.00	120.00	118.00

¹ Only full month prices published starting in January 2015. ² Includes contract sales paid during month. ³ Includes yellow and white corn. ⁴ Kentucky is a minor State, not published separately.

Livestock Average Prices Received ¹

Commodity	United States		
	Nov 2016	Oct 2017	Nov 2017
	\$ / Cwt.	\$ / Cwt.	\$ / Cwt.
All Hogs	39.00	47.30	50.00
Barrows & Gilts	39.30	47.60	50.20
Sows	30.40	36.30	44.60
All Beef Cattle ²	104.00	109.00	119.00
Steers & Heifers ³	106.00	111.00	121.00
Cows	61.90	65.40	63.40
Calves ⁴	144.00	177.00	177.00

¹ U.S. prices based on data provided by USDA AMS. ² "Steers & Heifers" and "Cows" combined. ³ 500 lbs. and over. ⁴ Under 500 lbs.

MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in the 23 major States during November totaled 16.2 billion pounds, up 1.1 percent from November 2016. October revised production, at 16.7 billion pounds, was up 1.3 percent from October 2016. The October revision represented a decrease of 27 million pounds or 0.2 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,861 pounds for November, 9 pounds above November 2016. This is the highest production per cow for the month of November since the 23 State series began in 2003.

The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.73 million head, 57,000 head more than November 2016, but unchanged from October 2017.

Hogs and Pigs: Inventory Numbers by Class & Weight Groups December 1, 2016 - 2017, Selected States and U.S.

State	Total		Breeding		Market		Market Hogs			
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	< 50	50-119	120-179	> 180
							pounds			
							2017			
	<i>1,000 hd</i>	<i>1,000 hd</i>	<i>1,000 hd</i>	<i>1,000 hd</i>	<i>1,000 hd</i>	<i>1,000 hd</i>	<i>1,000 hd</i>	<i>1,000 hd</i>	<i>1,000 hd</i>	<i>1,000 hd</i>
CO	670	750	150	150	520	600	255	130	120	95
IL	5,100	5,350	540	530	4,560	4,820	1,530	1,450	940	900
IN	4,100	4,000	270	260	3,830	3,740	1,000	1,060	780	900
IA	22,200	22,800	1,030	1,000	21,170	21,800	5,830	6,820	5,080	4,070
KS	1,910	2,100	165	165	1,745	1,935	480	520	420	515
KY	430	405	46	45	384	360	107	95	55	103
MI	1,130	1,180	110	120	1,020	1,060	330	240	245	245
MN	8,500	8,500	570	570	7,930	7,930	2,720	2,330	1,620	1,260
MO	3,100	3,400	435	450	2,665	2,950	1,450	560	445	495
NE	3,400	3,600	415	430	2,985	3,170	1,030	840	640	660
NC	9,300	9,000	880	900	8,420	8,100	3,190	1,790	1,590	1,530
OH	2,700	2,900	200	190	2,500	2,710	760	760	660	530
OK	2,160	2,200	450	460	1,710	1,740	725	420	235	360
PA	1,210	1,240	100	110	1,110	1,130	305	335	260	230
SD	1,450	1,560	190	215	1,260	1,345	460	365	270	250
TX	880	1,030	110	140	770	890	235	235	175	245
UT	700	540	75	80	625	460	185	85	100	90
Other ¹										
US	71,545	73,230	6,110	6,179	65,435	67,051	21,447	18,549	14,105	12,949

¹ Individual State estimates not available for the 34 other States. Kentucky included in "Other".

Internet Access: Data including this report are available free of charge on our Internet homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ky>. Links to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, the University of Kentucky Agricultural Weather Center and other web sites related to Kentucky Agriculture are also included. National & State reports and data are available on the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service homepage located at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/>